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World Production and Trade

United States
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Foreign
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Weekly
Roundup

WR 35-85

Aug. 28, 1985

The Foreign Agricultural Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture today reported the following developments in world agriculture and trade.

GRAIN AND FEED

POLAND's 1985/86 total grain crop is estimated at 23.9 million tons, 2 percent below last year's record crop of 24.4 million, according to the U.S. agricultural attache in Warsaw. Wheat production is estimated at a record 6.5 million tons, 8 percent above last year's crop, while total coarse grain production is estimated at 17.4 million, 6 percent below the 1984/85 harvest. Recent cool, rainy weather with some flooding in the southwestern and central regions has dimmed the outlook for both the quality and size of the 1985/86 grain harvest. About 50 percent of the grain crop was harvested as of August 20.

In the DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 1985/86 rice output is expected to be well below last year, but coarse grain production--corn and sorghum--will be above last year's level, according to the U.S. agricultural attache in Santo Domingo. Rice production is projected at 285,000 tons (milled basis), down 21 percent from last year. The decline in rice output is attributed to rising production costs, insufficient producer credit and regional irrigation water shortages, which have precipitated a sharp drop in area. Despite problems with inadequate rainfall, the outlook for 1985/86 coarse grain production is more favorable. Corn production is forecast at 100,000 tons, up 5 percent, and sorghum production at 54,000 tons, up 26 percent. The increase in projected coarse grain output is due primarily to more favorable producer prices which led to an expansion in area.

DAIRY, LIVESTOCK AND POULTRY

In SOUTH KOREA, 1985 poultry meat production is forecast at 128,000 tons, 6 percent above the 1984 level, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Seoul. The major reason for this expected increase is improved producer prices. Slower growth is forecast for 1986. Egg production in 1985 is projected at 5.25 billion eggs, up 3 percent. A similar increase is forecast for 1986.

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State and collective farms in the SOVIET UNION report that January-July 1985 total meat production was 4 percent above the same period in 1984, according to the U.S. agricultural counselor in Moscow. For the individual meats, beef was up 5 percent, pork was 1 percent higher and poultry meat increased by more than 6 percent. Egg production during the first seven months of 1985 was reported to be up 2 percent. Total milk production and production per cow were up slightly.

Cattle numbers on state and collective farms on August 1 were reported at 97.9 million head, the same as a year ago. Cow numbers at 27.6 million head were down 0.2 million head. Inventories of hogs, reported at 59.4 million head, were 2.4 million below Aug. 1, 1984. Sheep and goat numbers were reported at 135.3 million head, down 4.1 million head. Poultry numbers on August 1 were up 2 percent.

CANADIAN Agricultural Minister Wise announced a \$C48 million program on August 14 to aid western livestock producers seriously affected by drought and grasshopper damage. Under the Livestock Drought Assistance Program, the Federal government will provide up to \$C30 per breeding cow to help pay for the purchase and transportation of feed to drought-stricken areas. Support also will be available for other classes of livestock such as sheep and goats.

Drought and grasshoppers have created a severe feed shortage for many cattle producers in western Canada. The minister claimed that these exceptional circumstances required special aid to ensure the future viability of the region's livestock industry by maintaining an adequate beef breeding herd in the West. The program will assist livestock producers in maintaining their breeding herds and reduce pressure on Canadian slaughter plants to seek beef export markets in the United States.

FRUITS

The U.S. agricultural counselor in Belgrade reports that YUGOSLAVIAN plum production in 1985 will decline for the third consecutive year. The current crop is expected to total only 450,000 tons due to excessive rain during pollination and a virus that affected virtually all plum orchards in Yugoslavia. Production is estimated as follows in 1,000 tons:

1982/83	1983/84	1984/85	1985/86
1,028	991	630	450

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Selected International Prices

Item	Aug. 27, 1985		Change from previous week		A year ago
	\$ per MT	\$ per bu.	\$ per MT	\$ per MT	
ROTTERDAM PRICES 1/					
Wheat:					
Canadian No. 1 CWRS-13.5%.	158.00	4.30	+1.50	184.00	
U.S. No. 2 DNS/NS: 14%....	148.00	4.03	-1.00	172.00	
U.S. No. 2 S.R.W.	127.00	3.46	-2.00	152.50	
U.S. No. 3 H.A.D.....	162.00	4.41	+2.00	190.00	
Canadian No. 1 A: Durum...	N.Q.	--	--	207.00	
Feed grains:					
U.S. No. 3 Yellow Corn....	117.00	2.97	+1.00	151.00	
Soybeans and meal:					
U.S. No. 2 Yellow.....	206.50	5.62	-.25	271.50	
Brazil 47/48% SoyaPellets	156.00	--	+2.50	177.50	
U.S. 44% Soybean Meal....	148.50	--	+.50	180.50	
U.S. FARM PRICES 3/					
Wheat.....	103.24	2.81	--	120.51	
Barley.....	57.87	1.26	-2.30	92.78	
Corn.....	94.88	2.41	-1.97	126.77	
Sorghum.....	N.Q.	-- 2/	--	100.09	
Broilers 7/.....	1174.17	--	+64.37	1177.92	
EC IMPORT LEVIES					
Wheat 5/.....	87.90	2.39	+1.90	59.55	
Barley.....	89.90	1.96	+1.15	55.45	
Corn.....	71.70	1.82	-2.15	34.05	
Sorghum.....	93.00	2.36	+4.50	64.05	
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/.....	181.00	--	-1.00	172.00	
EC INTERVENTION PRICES 7/					
Common wheat(feed quality)	146.95	4.00	+.30	144.25	
Bread wheat (min. quality)7/	157.10	4.28	+.30	154.20	
Barley and all					
other feed grains.....	146.95	--	+.30	144.25	
Broilers 4/ 6/.....	1178.00	--	-12.00	1136.00	
EC EXPORT RESTITUTIONS (subsidies)					
Wheat	33.15	.90	--	10.45	
Barley.....	48.55	1.06	--	19.40	
Broilers 4/ 6/ 8/.....	104.00	--	-1.00	101.00	

1/ Asking prices in U.S. dollars for imported grain and soybeans, c.i.f., Rotterdam. 2/ Hundredweight (CWT). 3/ Twelve-city average, wholesale weighted average. 4/ EC category--70 percent whole chicken. 5/ Reflects lower EC export subsidy--down to 20.00 ECU/100 bag effective 9/14/83 from 22.50 ECU/100 bag set in 2/83. 6/ F.o.b. price for R.T.C. broilers at West German border. 7/ Reference price. 8/Reflects change in level set by EC. N.A.=None authorized. N.Q.=Not quoted. Note: Basis September delivery.

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